

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 JERUSA 00427 221027Z

42

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DRC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 SAB-01 SAM-01 IO-14 OMB-01 /105 W

----- 052828

R 220958Z MAR 74

FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5145

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L JERUSALEM 427

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, JO, IS

SUBJECT: LEADERSHIP OF WEST BANK STATE

1. MARCH 22 JERUSALEM POST CARRIES STORY BY ARAB AFFAIRS REPORTER SAFADI THAT JORDAN HAS PICKED WEST BANKER ANWAR KHATIB AS PRIME MINISTER OF PALESTINIAN STATE "WHICH COULD BE ESTABLISHED" FOLLOWING JORDAN-ISRAEL SETTLEMENT. REPORT WAS APPARENTLY BROUGHT FROM AMMAN BY A WEST BANK NOTABLE, WHO ALSO SAID HUSSEIN WOULD BRING UP KHATIB'S NAME WITH ARAB LEADERS HE IS TO MEET FOLLOWING US VISIT.

2. COMMENT: KHATIB IS FORMER GOVERNOR OF JERUSALEM AND GENERALLY CONSIDERED PRINCIPAL HASHEMITE SUPPORTER IN JERUSALEM AND WEST BANK. HE WOULD BE LOGICAL CHOICE FROM AMMAN'S STANDPOINT TO HEAD ANY LOCAL ENTITY SHOULD ONE BE ESTABLISHED. GIVEN HIS FORMER ROLE, HOWEVER, AND CONTINUING CLOSE ASSOCIATION WITH HASHEMITES, KHATIB WOULD SEEM TO MANY WEST BANKERS TO REPRESENT REINSTITUTION OF OLD REGIME RATHER THAN ESTABLISHMENT OF GENUINELY PALESTINE ONE. WE HAVE IMPRESSION HE HAS SOUGHT TO FREE HIMSELF FROM THIS STEREOTYPE. IN MY LAST TALK WITH HIM HE MADE POINT OF CRITICIZING WAY IN WHICH HASHEMITES HAD RUN WEST BANK PRIOR TO 1967 AND
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 JERUSA 00427 221027Z

SAID GREATER DEGREE OF LOCAL AUTONOMY NEEDED.

3. WE DOUBT SAFADI'S REPORT, IF TRUE, REPRESENTS MORE THAN ONE ELEMENT IN JORDANIAN CONTINGENCY PLANNING. IN MY RECENT VISIT TO AMMAN I HEARD FROM NUMBER OF SOURCES IN GOJ THAT NABLUS NOTABLE HIKMAT AL-MASRI (JERUSALEM 377) HAD BEEN CHOSEN BY PLO AS PROSPECTIVE HEAD OF PALESTINIAN WEST BANK GOVERNMENT (INFORMATION MINISTER ABU ODEH REFERRED TO HIM AS ARAFAT'S KERENSKY). I AM INCLINED TO BELIEVE THERE IS SOMETHING IN THAT STORY, AND IN ANY CASE IF IT IS BELIEVED IN AMMAN THE FIELDING OF CHAMPION OF THEIR OWN MIGHT APPEAL TO JORDANIANS.

4. THERE IS OF COURSE INTENSE POLITICAL ACTIVITY ON WEST BANK BY JORDANIANS, PLO, AND ISRAELIS. WE HAVE HEARD THAT KHATIB HAS BEEN APPROACHED BY ALL THREE TO PLAY LEADING ROLE IN WEST BANK ADMINISTRATION TAILORED TO THEIR RESPECTIVE POLICY NEEDS (JERUSALEM 213). IF THESE REPORTS ARE TRUE, IT IS INTERESTING THAT PLO DOES NOT DISMISS KHATIB FOR HIS HASHEMITE CONNECTIONS SO READILY AS SOME OF THEIR SUPPORTERS HEREABOUTS WOULD DO.
DAY

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REFUGEES, PRESS COMMENTS, PRIME MINISTER, SELFGOVERNMENT, PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION, MILITARY OCCUPIED AREAS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974JERUSA00427
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740061-0587
From: JERUSALEM
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740323/aaaaavgn.tel
Line Count: 82
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13-Aug-2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <09 JAN 2003 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LEADERSHIP OF WEST BANK STATE
TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, JO, IS, (KHATIB, ANWAR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005